

question from Silverton Standard on NPL status and draft messages

Jennifer Lane to: hestmark.martin

12/14/2011 12:59 PM

From: Jennifer Lane/R8/USEPA/US

To:

Cc: Pennock.Sonya@epa.gov, Wharton.Steve@epa.gov, Michael Holmes/R8/USEPA/US@EPA,

Bcc: ostrander.david@epa.gov, rudy.mike@epa.gov, Scott Wilder/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, sisk.richard@epa.gov, mylott.richard@epa.gov

Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US

Hi Martin,

Mark Esper from the Silverton Standard has left me a voice message that he is getting indications that EPA is not seeking the NPL in 2012 for Upper Cement Creek and wants to know our response. He is on deadline today and his story will be in the paper tomorrow in time for the ARSG meeting.

Also, I've now received all edits/ comments from BLM and the state and I have incorporated these into revised messages (attached). I have not incorporated Kay Zillich's comments (BLM) as they would involve policy changes regarding participation in an alternative collaborative process (her email/comments are below - please read). Per the state, I've added some messages that would address concerns about stigma.

In the meantime, I recommend we come up with a response to Mark that answers his question and gets at our overall goals with the community. Below is some suggested language. Please advise on how you'd like me to respond to Mark and whether and how you'd like me to incorporate Kay's comments into the revised messages.

Jennifer Lane

At this time, EPA has not made a decision to pursue the National Priorities List for the Upper Cement Creek area. The decision to propose a site for listing can only be made after a technical evaluation is done to determine if the site is NPL eligible. EPA is just completing this technical evaluation. Additionally, both the State of Colorado and the EPA seek community support prior to a site being proposed for listing. EPA would like to work with the community and stakeholders, including BLM, to define a process that would identify the most effective approach for a comprehensive, long-term and funded remedy that will result in improved water quality in the Animas River.



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----- Forwarded by Jennifer Lane/R8/USEPA/US on 12/14/2011 11:12 AM -----

From: "Zillich, Cathleen A" <czillich@blm.gov>

To: Jennifer Lane/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, "Borders, Shannon D" <sborders@blm.gov>, "Lewis, Brent R" <b1lewis@blm.gov>

Cc: Michael Holmes/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, "Dodd, William B" <WDodd@blm.gov>, "Armstrong, Valori A" <vaarmstrong@blm.gov>

Date: 12/07/2011 04:32 PM
Subject: comments on talking points and fact sheet

Brent forwarded Jenifer's reminder about comments for the talking points and fact sheet. Sorry I did not respond earlier.

The fact sheet is good. I had a few comments. You asked if state and BLM wanted their logos on it. Since it seems very focused on EPA, and will be on the EPA website, I would suggest that it not have a BLM logo.

My comments on the messages/talking points document relate chiefly to the gap in EPA participation in the ARSG process since the Upper Cement Creek work group has become active. I see the Federal Agencies strongest role would be to bolster the ongoing effort (so that it meets the requirements of the CERCLA process even if the document coming out of the ARSG process has a different name), rather than initiate a parallel and redundant process initiated by the Agencies. Apologies if some of my comments are not tactfully stated.

Kay Zillich
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